**PATENT**

# DRAFT CLAIMS FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY DO NOT ENTER

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| Applicant: | Paul Francis Day |
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| Title: | **IMPROVED TUBES** |
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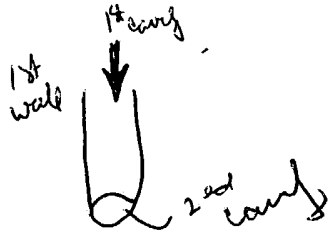
2. (Currently Amended) A sample tube assembly comprising:

(i) a tube portion having a bottom;

(ii) an end cap ~~mountable~~ permanently connected to the bottom of the tube portion to provide a fluid tight-seal therewith;

(iii) a label chamber defined by a space between the bottom of the tube portion and the end cap; and

(iv) a label having optically readable code located inside the label chamber, a region of the end cap over the label being sufficiently transparent for the optically readable code to be read through the end cap.




35. (New) An apparatus for holding a sample, comprising:

an optically readable identifier; and

a body having a first wall defining a first cavity, an opening in said first wall through which the sample can be inserted into the first cavity, and a second wall permanently connected to said first wall to define therewith a second cavity sealed to the atmosphere, said second cavity containing said optically readable identifier, and at least a section of said second wall being transparent to facilitate optically reading said identifier through said transparent wall section.

36. (New) An apparatus for holding a sample, comprising:

an optically readable identifier; and

a body having first and second walls defining first and second chambers, said first chamber including an opening through which the sample may be inserted, said second chamber being sealed to the atmosphere and having the optically readable identifier located therein, and said second wall having at least a section thereof transparent to facilitate optically reading said optically readable identifier, said first chamber and said second chamber being inseparable relative to each other.

37. (New) An apparatus for holding a sample, comprising:

an optically readable identifier; and

a first container having a first cavity defined by a first wall and a first opening in said first wall for inserting a sample into said first cavity;

a second container having a second wall defining a second cavity, said second wall having a second opening surrounded by a rim through which the optically readable identifier can be inserted into said second cavity, at least a portion of said second wall being transparent to facilitate optically reading said optically readable identifier when said second opening is permanently sealed by at least a portion of said first wall.

39. (New) An apparatus for holding a sample, comprising:

an optically readable identifier;

a first container having a first cavity defined by a first wall with a first opening therein for inserting a sample through said opening into said first cavity; and

a second container having a second wall defining a second cavity, said second wall having a rim and a second opening surrounded by said rim through which the optically readable identifier can be inserted into said second cavity, at least a portion of said second wall being transparent to facilitate optically reading said optically readable identifier when said first container and said second container are permanently connected to permanently seal said rim of said second opening with at least a portion of said first wall.

40. (New) A method of constructing a sample tube assembly, comprising:

providing a first container having a first cavity defined by a first wall and a first opening in the first wall for inserting a sample into the first cavity;

providing a second container having a second wall defining a second cavity,

inserting an optically readable identifier through a second opening into the second cavity through a second opening in the second wall; and

permanently connecting a rim surrounding the second opening with the first wall to permanently seal the second opening to atmosphere.